Serial No.: 09/845,064

Page 2

Claims presented herein replaces all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application, thereby addressing the issue of duplicate claims presented by the Applicant in the previous Amendment. No new matter is added.

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the "Listing of the Claims" which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Please enter the following amendments and remarks.

Serial No.: 09/845,064

Page 3

The following <u>Listing of the Claims</u> will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

<u>Listing of The Claims:</u>

1-16. Canceled

- 17. (Currently amended) A synthetic vector consisting of comprising:
 - a nucleic acid sequence coding for a first origin of replication;
 - a nucleic acid sequence coding for a selection agent;
 - a trfA locus coding for a protein that permits an increase in the replication rate of the vector; and
 - a nucleic acid sequence coding for a T-DNA, including a right border, RB, and a left border, LB, which permit the vector to function as a binary plasmid.
- 18. (Previously presented) The synthetic vector of claim 17 wherein a multiple cloning site is situated near the right border RB of the T-DNA.
- 19. (Currently amended) The synthetic vector of claim 17 wherein said vector comprises a nucleic acid sequence coding for corresponding to at least one expression promoter and a nucleic acid sequence corresponding to at least one transcription terminator situated between the left border, LB, and the right border, RB, of the T-DNA.
- 20. (Previously presented) The synthetic vector of claim 19, wherein said expression promoter is chosen from the group consisting of a constitutive promoter, an inducible promoter, and a tissue specific promoter.
- 21. (Currently amended) The synthetic vector of claim 19 wherein said expression promoter is a plant expression promoter functions in a plant.

Serial No.: 09/845,064

Page 4

22. (Previously presented) The synthetic vector according to claim 21 wherein said expression promoter is chosen from the group consisting of: the 35S CaMV promoter; the ep35S of CaMV; the pea plastocyanin gene promoter, and its "enhancer"; the "high molecular weight glutenin" (HMWG) promoter of wheat; the CsVMV "Cassava mosaic virus" promoter; the CoYMV "Commelina yellow mosaic virus" promoter; and the chimeric promoters of the CsVMV and CoYMV promoters.

- 23. (Currently amended) The synthetic vector of claim 19 wherein said transcription terminator is a terminator of a plant cell functions in a plant.
- 24. (Previously presented) The synthetic vector of claim 23 wherein said terminator is a 35S or a nos terminator.

25-55. Canceled.

- 56. (New) A synthetic vector comprising:
 - a nucleic acid sequence coding for a first origin of replication;- a nucleic acid sequence coding for a selection agent;
 - a trfA locus coding for a protein that permits an increase in the replication rate of the vector; and
 - a nucleic acid sequence coding for a T-DNA, including a right border, RB, and a left border, LB, which permit the vector to function as a binary plasmid, wherein said nucleic acid sequence coding for a selection agent is located near said left border of said T-DNA.
- 57. (New) A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 01-22.